

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY No. 21 • 5th JULY 1969 PRICE 1/3



Meet Brer Rabbit and his funny family inside

Beauty and the *Beast*



1. The Beast had given Beauty a magic rose that would grant her every wish. She used the rose to take her to her father because he was ill. Then one day Beauty saw that the rose was missing from the vase where she kept it. What could have happened to it?



2. Little did Beauty know that one of her sisters had stolen it to use it for her own jealous ends. But the rose's only reply to the sister's wish was a frightening crash of thunder. At last Beauty found the rose where her sister had dropped it.



3. The rose's petals were drooping but as soon as Beauty picked it up, the rose came to full life again. Beauty smiled at the beautiful flower for it reminded her of the Beast, so sad and gentle. What was he doing now? What was the mystery surrounding him?



4. Beauty looked at the calendar and then she gasped in dismay. She had overstayed her four weeks with her father by a day. Swiftly she ran to his side. "I must keep my promise to the Beast and return at once," said she.



5. "But don't worry, dear father," went on Beauty. "I'll try to return soon." Then, raising the rose, she wished to return to the Beast's castle.



6. There came a swirling and a rushing of a great wind and Beauty closed her eyes as she felt herself lifted and borne through the air. Only a few moments passed by and then Beauty felt her feet touch the ground. Opening her eyes she saw that she was once again in the Great Hall of the Beast's splendid castle. She called aloud for the Beast but there was no reply.



7. From room to room ran Beauty. Although she swiftly searched everywhere in the castle there was no sign of the Beast. "Perhaps he is in the gardens," she thought, and ran out of the castle to see.



8. Beauty was now very worried and she realised that she had come to love the Beast. Why else was she so fearful for his safety? Then suddenly she saw him, lying on the grass, limp, silent and still.

Next week you will learn the Beast's secret.



1. Castel Sant'Angelo, Rome, Italy. In the year 590 A.D., a terrible plague raged in Rome. One day the Pope, whose name was Gregory, was leading a procession to pray for mercy. It is said he saw the Archangel Michael on top of the castle, sheathing his sword as a sign that the plague was over. Hence the name of this ancient building.



2. The Kremlin, Moscow, Russia. The Kremlin is a great fortress crowded with old cathedrals and monasteries, sacred relics, vast treasures of gold and silver ornaments and precious jewels. Once it was regarded as a very holy place but since the great Russian revolution of 1917 has been the government headquarters.



You may remember that in issue Number 10 we showed Allsorts of buildings. Here are more.

All Sorts



5. The Alcazar, Segovia, Spain. The castles in Spain are some of the most famous and beautiful in the world; and one of the most splendid of them all is the wonderful Alcazar at Segovia. It was built six hundred years ago. One day, perhaps, you will visit it.



6. Houses of Parliament, London. In the year 1834 a servant of the old Parliament building was given the job of burning a lot of wooden tallies (receipts) which had been collected for 600 years. In doing so he set fire to the building which was completely destroyed. In its place the present building was erected.



3. Rembrandt's Birthplace, Leiden, Holland. Although Rembrandt van Ryn, one of the world's greatest painters, was a very popular and well-paid artist as a young man, he died a poor man, aged 63. His birthplace is now part of the works where "ONCE UPON A TIME" is printed.



4. Hotel des Invalides, Paris, France. This famous building was built just over 300 years ago. Under the dome of its great church lies the tomb of Napoleon, the mighty Emperor of the French. He had died in exile on the island of St. Helena and asked in his will to be buried "in the midst of the people of France". Twenty years later his body was taken to France.

of Buildings



7. The Alamo Mission, San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A. Texas is today the largest state in the United States of America. But in 1836, Texas belonged to Mexico. The Texans wanted to be free of Mexico's harsh rule and demanded their freedom. A Mexican army attacked 182 Texans who had taken up their defence in the Alamo mission. Every Texan was slain.



8. The Acropolis, Athens, Greece. The Greek word acropolis means the highest part or citadel of a city. The Acropolis of Athens stands on top of a lofty hill and its most famous building is the beautiful Parthenon. Only its ruins remain for in 1685, while used as a store for gunpowder, it exploded.



BRER RABBIT

Miss Cow falls a victim to Brer Rabbit. By Barbara Hayes.

NOW one day Brer Rabbit was out galloping along the roads, when he felt mighty thirsty.

And just at that time, as luck would have it, he was passing Miss Cow.

Brer Rabbit knew mighty well that Miss Cow wouldn't give him any milk, because she had refused him lots of times before. But Brer Rabbit thought, "This time I will try one of my tricks."

So Brer Rabbit danced up to the side of the fence and shouted out:

"Howdy, Sister Cow."

"Why, howdy, Brer Rabbit," replied Sister Cow.

"How are you keeping these days, Sister Cow?" asked Brer Rabbit.

"Sort of so-so," said Miss Cow.

Then Brer Rabbit looked up at one of the trees and said:

"There are some mighty fine plums up this tree, Sister Cow, and I'd surely like to have some."

"How are you going to get them, Brer Rabbit?" asked Miss Cow.

"Well, I did think that I might ask you to butt against the tree and shake some down, Sister Cow," answered Brer Rabbit.

Well, Miss Cow didn't want to seem unfriendly to Brer Rabbit, so she marched up to the tree and hit it a rap with her horns — *blam!*

Now, as Brer Rabbit very well knew, those plums were still as green as grass and not ready to drop at all. So none dropped.

Then Miss Cow, she butted the tree again — *blim!*

Not a single plum dropped.

Then Miss Cow backed off a little farther, she did, and lifted up her tail over her back and rushed on to the tree — *kerblam!*

And she came so fast and she came so hard that one of her horns went — *sprang* — into the tree and she was stuck.

She couldn't go forward.

She couldn't go backwards.

This was exactly what Brer Rabbit had been waiting for.

He jumped up and danced for joy.

"Come and help me, Brer Rabbit," said Miss Cow.

"I'm too tiny," said Brer Rabbit. "But I'll run and tell Brer Bull."

And with that Brer Rabbit rushed to his home.

And it wasn't long before back he came with his wife and all his children.

And every single one of the family was carrying a pail.

They all surrounded old Miss Cow, they did, and they milked her dry.

The big ones milked and the little ones milked.

Then when they had all taken enough, Brer Rabbit said:

"I wish you mighty well, Sister Cow. And as you will be stuck here all night, I

think I had better come and milk you again in the morning."

Well, Miss Cow, she stood there, she did, and she thought and thought and struggled to break loose, but her horn was jammed tight in the tree. It wasn't until just before dawn the next day that she managed to wriggle loose.

Then Miss Cow grazed around because, of course, she was hungry. And she thought to herself: "I expect that Brer Rabbit will be coming soon. Now I will lay a trap to catch him."

So just about sunrise, what did old Miss Cow do but march up to the plum tree and stick her horn back into the hole.

But, goodness me, when she had been cropping the grass, Miss Cow had taken one bite too many, because when she went back to the tree again, Brer Rabbit was hiding and watching.

Miss Cow had left her trick just a moment too late.

"Hallo," said Brer Rabbit to himself. "What is going on here?"

Then Brer Rabbit crept quietly away and by and by he came galloping back—lippity-clippity, clippity-lipperty, so that anyone could hear him.

"Good morning, Sister Cow," said Brer Rabbit. "How are you this morning?"

"I haven't had any rest all night," she said. "I can't pull loose. But if you'll come and catch cold of my tail, Brer Rabbit, I think I might get my horn out."

Brer Rabbit, he came up a little closer, but he didn't get too close.

Then Miss Cow pulled out her horn and raced after Brer Rabbit.

Down the main road they went, Brer Rabbit with his ears laid back and Miss Cow with her head down and her tail curling.

Brer Rabbit kept on pulling ahead and by and by he darted into a briar patch.

By the time Miss Cow came along, Brer Rabbit had his head sticking out of the briar patch and his eyes were as big as saucers.

"Hallo, Sister Cow! Where are you going?"

"Howdy, Brer Big Eyes," said Miss Cow. "Have you seen Brer Rabbit go by?"

"He went by just a moment ago," said Brer Rabbit.

And with that Miss Cow raced off down the road as fast as she could go.

And Brer Rabbit lay and laughed and laughed.

"The fox is after me, the buzzard is after me, the cow is after me, but none of them ever catch me," he laughed.

There will be another Brer Rabbit story next week.



A Rare Bird

Here is a bird that quite likely you have never seen although once upon a time there were very many in this country. It is called the Avocet and, because of its striking colours, it is very easy to shoot. A hundred years ago, hunters shot so many of these birds that at last they almost disappeared from Britain.

However, a few years ago, a pair nested again and people were so pleased about this that the birds were carefully guarded. Perhaps some day we shall see these handsome birds once again in many numbers. Elsewhere in Europe they are much more plentiful than in Britain.

The avocet's home is near mud flats, salt marshes and sandbanks. Its nest is a slight hollow in the sand, lined with dead leaves. It lays four eggs in April or May. Each egg is buff in colour, heavily marked with black. The eggs take 23 days to hatch.

In the picture you can see what young avocets look like.



An avocet's egg



A. Two robins build a nest.

Four eggs hatch out.

How many robins altogether?



B. A family of five tigers.

The three young tigers grow big enough to leave.

How many tigers remain?



C. Rover, Bruce and Spot.

Spot has four puppies.

How many now play together?



D. Two squirrels live in a tree.

Three baby squirrels are born.

How many squirrels now live together?



E. Eight ducks swim on the pond.

Two young ducks fly away.

How many ducks still swim?



F. Four rabbits play together.

Five more baby rabbits are born.

How many rabbits are there now?

Answers : A=6; B=2; C=7; D=5; E=6; F=9.



This story is a memory test. When you have finished reading it, turn to page 16 and try to answer the questions about the story that are printed there.

THE FIRST HORSES IN AMERICA

EVERYBODY has heard about the beautiful wild horses of America. Once they roamed the mountains and the plains of the Wild West in their scores of thousands. But today there are not so many herds.

Will it surprise you to learn that until the white men came there were no horses in America?

The first horses were brought by a Spanish soldier named Hernando Cortez in the year 1519. You should remember this date. He landed on the coast of America with 11 ships, five hundred and eight men and sixteen horses.

There, in a completely strange land, surrounded by jungle and faced by thousands of fierce Indians called Aztecs, he and his men set out on one of the most amazing adventures in history—the conquest of the Aztec Empire.

On one occasion Cortez and his men (remember there were only five hundred and eight when he started) were faced by fifty thousand Aztecs—and Cortez won!

When the Indians first saw the mounted Spanish soldiers, they thought that each horse and its rider was one animal. As soon as the Aztecs saw them, they turned tail and ran away. The picture at the top of this column shows you what one of these Spanish soldiers looked like.





R. Arenys

This magnificent picture of wild horses called "SNOW ON THE RANGE" is by the Spanish artist Ricardo Arenys and is published by kind permission of the Pallas Gallery, Albemarle Street, London, W.1.

The Princess and the Dwarf



1. A rather ugly but very kind-hearted dwarf once lived deep in a wood, where he worked all day sewing shoes of fine leather. The dwarf, for all he was so tiny and ugly, had a magic touch in his fingers and soon became known as the finest shoemaker in the land.



2. Now it happened that the Princess of that country sent her Lady-in-Waiting to order some new dancing shoes. "For the Princess," said the dwarf, "I will make some very special shoes indeed." And he put a magic spell on the shoes so that the Princess would be able to dance all night without feeling tired.



3. Naturally the Princess was very pleased about it. "Bring this dwarf to me," she said, "I should like to speak with him." But she didn't realise he would be so ugly. "Take him away," she said.



4. This made the dwarf angry, as, of course, he had every right to be. He decided to teach the young Princess a lesson. "You shall dance and dance as long as you wear those shoes," he said.



5. The Ladies-in-Waiting screamed and put their hands over their eyes as the Princess began to dance. She tried to tear the shoes off her feet at first, but they had stuck fast. Day after day, she danced, week after week, while she grew sad and pale and her beauty died.



6. One day a kind-hearted Prince saw her dancing and weeping. She won his heart. "Poor girl," he said. "She's not beautiful, but she's so unhappy. She needs all the kindness she can get, that's very plain. I think I'll marry her so that I can look after her."



7. As he said this the shoes flew off the Princess's feet, for the Prince's words had broken the spell. Thus she learned that a kind heart is more than beauty, for beauty fades but goodness lives on.



8. The Princess married the good Prince, and after a while her beauty returned. But she never forgot the lesson the dwarf had taught her, and she continued to buy all her shoes from him.

CORSICA

The French Island where
the language is Italian



One hundred miles south east of France is the island of Corsica. In 1768 the island, which belonged to the Italian city of Genoa, was sold to France. Later, during a long war between the French and the British, it came under British rule.

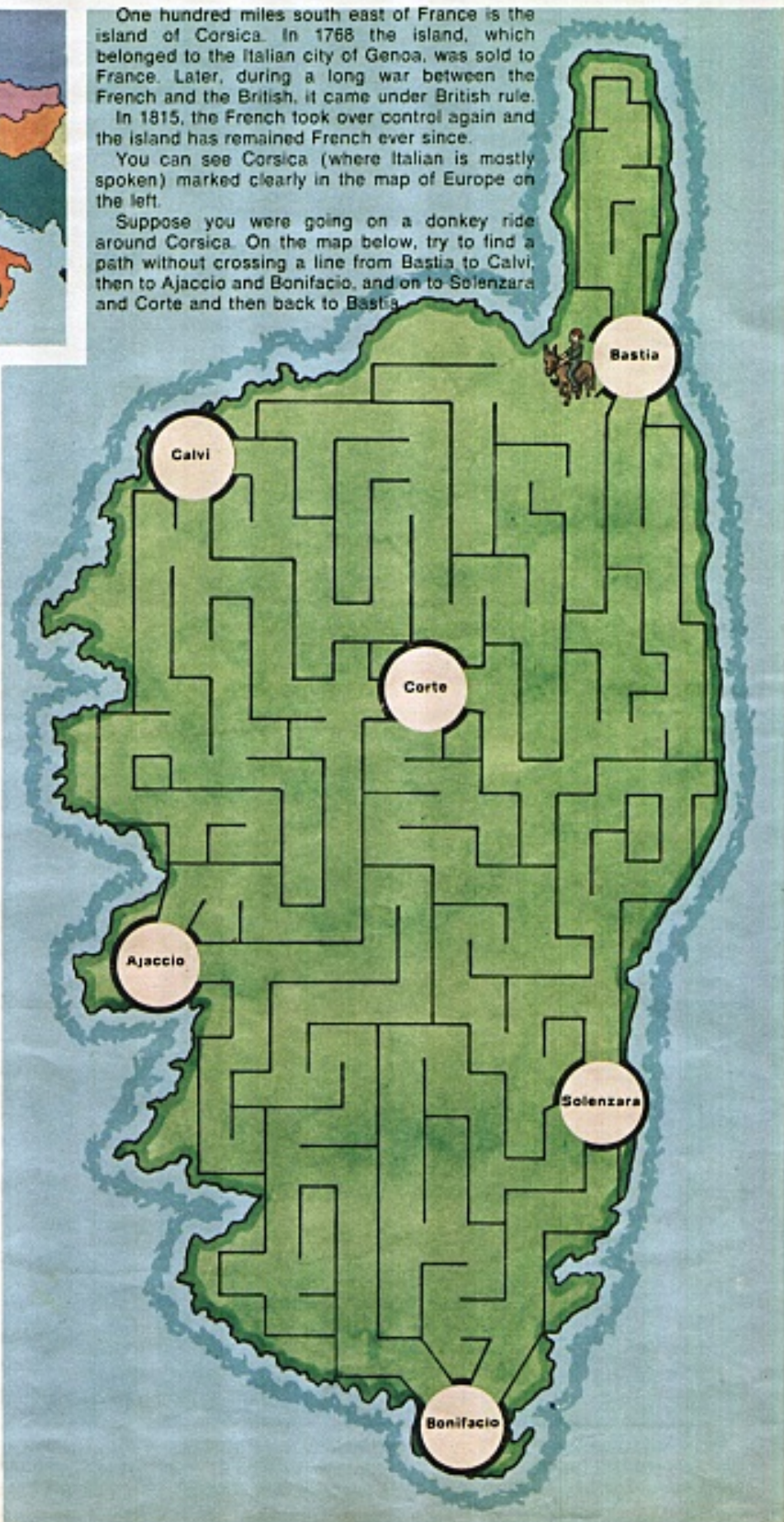
In 1815, the French took over control again and the island has remained French ever since.

You can see Corsica (where Italian is mostly spoken) marked clearly in the map of Europe on the left.

Suppose you were going on a donkey ride around Corsica. On the map below, try to find a path without crossing a line from Bastia to Calvi, then to Ajaccio and Bonifacio, and on to Solenzara and Corte and then back to Bastia.



In 1769, not long after Corsica was sold to the French, a baby boy was born to a family named Bonaparte. He was called Napoleon. He became Emperor of the French. There is more about Napoleon on the opposite page. If you fill in all the spaces marked with a dot in the above picture, you can draw him.



Names to Remember

Facts to interest you about people, things and places.



George Washington. George Washington, who became the very first President of the United States of America, was famous for his honesty. It is said that as a boy he chopped down his father's favourite tree, but owned up to the deed rather than tell a lie!



The Rose. The rose has been a favourite garden flower for many hundreds of years. Roses are admired for their colours and perfume, and many scents are made from rose petals. These lovely flowers grow very easily in almost any kind of garden soil.



The Himalayas. This famous range of mountains lies on the northern frontier of India. Other ranges of mountains in the world are longer than the Himalayas but the peaks of this range are higher than all other mountains on earth.



Napoleon Bonaparte. Napoleon Bonaparte was a very clever French general at a time when his country had many enemies. He made France into a very powerful nation, and then crowned himself as Emperor. He was greatly loved by his soldiers.



THE TOWN MOUSE AND THE Country Mouse

This week read more about the country mouse in town. By Barbara Hayes.

"I'll tell you something, our Stephanie," said Bertie. "What I should like to do most of all while Winifred and I are in town, is to see a nice lot of these new-fangled motor cars. And I reckon that the best place to see them is at that motor show that your boy-friend, Nigel, was talking about last evening."

"It's a pity that Nigel can't keep a still tongue in his head," snapped Stephanie.

You see, Winifred, the country mouse, and her boy-friend, Bertie, had gone to stay with Winifred's cousin, Stephanie, in town.

But Stephanie hadn't been expecting them and wasn't really ready for their visit and on top of that, she was rather ashamed for her smart friends to know that she had any relatives who looked so countryfied and old-fashioned as Winifred and Bertie.

So Stephanie was trying to take Winifred and Bertie out on sight-seeing trips only when she thought her fashionable friends wouldn't be about.

So far she had managed quite well, but when Bertie heard her boy-friend, Nigel, mention the motor show—or Auto Expo, as the smart people called it—Stephanie knew that she was in real trouble.

You see, for the whole time that the motor show was open, it was packed with smart people.

There wasn't the tiniest chance of Stephanie taking Winifred and Bertie to the show without being seen by some of Stephanie's towny friends.

"Nigel, every time you open your mouth you put your foot in it," grumbled Stephanie. "I'm only surprised that your mouth isn't full of feet by now."

But the damage was done and grumbling wouldn't undo it.

Bertie had heard about the show and he was insisting on going.

There was nothing for Stephanie to do but to promise to take them the next day.

Poor Nigel *did* feel in the dumps. He hated it when Stephanie was cross with him.

He wandered past the hall in which the motor show was being held, wondering what he could do to put things right.

All he could think of were the last words Stephanie had said to him.

Instead of saying "Goodnight, Nigel dear," as she usually did, she had snapped: "Badnight, you blockhead! And don't come round here tomorrow unless you can learn how to keep your feet out of your mouth."

Stephanie became very snappish, when she was cross.

Then suddenly Nigel looked up at the doors of the motor show hall and who should he see standing there but little Tiny Tom.

Now Tiny Tom was an old friend of Nigel's.

Tiny Tom often worked as a pageboy at the theatre and Nigel always gave him a nice tip, whenever he and Stephanie went to see a play.

Nigel was a very kind chap.

"Hallo, Mr. Nigel, sir," smiled Tiny Tom. "What's making you look so glum?"

So Nigel explained everything to Tiny Tom.

And Tiny Tom remembered how good Nigel had been to him in the past and he made up his mind to help.

"I think I can help, Mr. Nigel, sir," he said. "I am in charge of opening the doors at this show. Now if you told Miss Stephanie to get up very early tomorrow morning—very early, mind—and to come round here with her two friends, I will open the doors and let them in."

"They can look round the show before anyone else gets here. It will be better for them really, because they will see the cars in peace. And Miss Stephanie will like it, because none of her smart friends will be here to laugh at her two friends from the country."

"Oh thank you, Tiny Tom. You're a real friend," gasped Nigel.

He shook Tiny Tom by the hand. Now it so happened that Nigel's hand had a ten shilling note in it. That note somehow managed to change over to being in Tiny Tom's hand, so both of them felt very pleased with the arrangement that had been made.

When Nigel told Stephanie, she was thrilled.

"Thank you, Nigel," she said. "You really can be a sweetie-pie when you try, you know."

The next morning, Winifred and Bertie and Stephanie got up very early and went round to the motor show.

They went so early they saw Mr. Badger, the milkman, delivering his first bottles of milk.

How he stared to see Stephanie up so early.

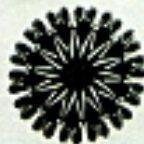
"Come along, Miss Stephanie," called Tiny Tom from the top of the steps. "The special private show for your very important friends is ready now."

Tiny Tom just said that, of course, to make Mr. Badger think that Winifred and Bertie were *important* people and wouldn't say that he had seen Stephanie with two *country bumpkins*.

So everything went well.

Bertie and Winifred really enjoyed the show better than if they had tried to see it when it was crowded, so Stephanie didn't feel that she had been treating them badly.

But will Stephanie be able to go on hiding Winifred and Bertie from her smart friends? Read next week's story.

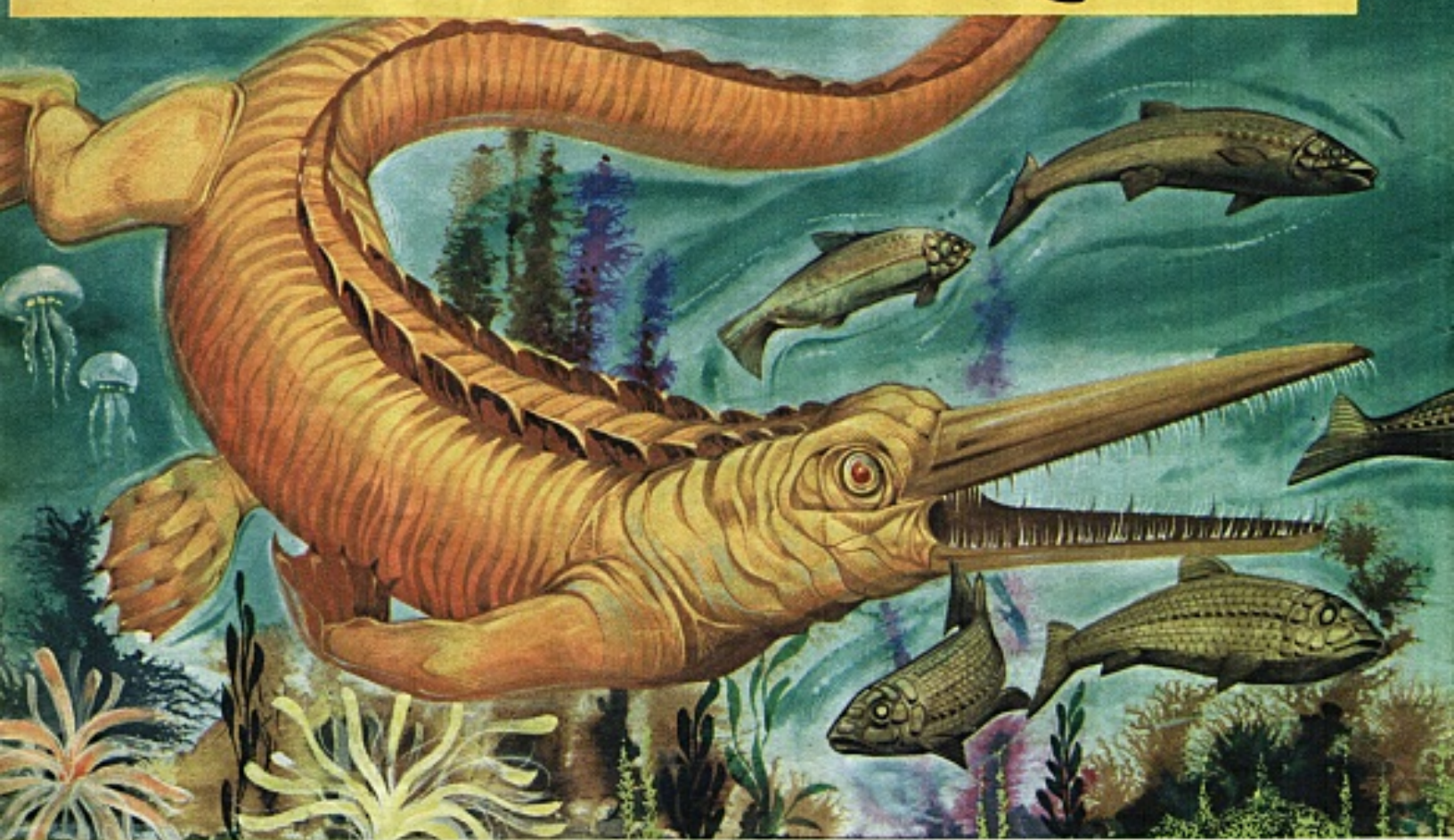


Have you read the story about the first horses in America on page 10? If so, try to answer these questions about it. You can read the story again and see if you have answered correctly.

1. What was the name of the soldier who led the Spaniards?
2. In what year did the Spaniards land in America?
3. How many soldiers were there in the Spanish army?
4. How many horses did they bring?
5. What were the Indians called? Their name begins with the letter "A".



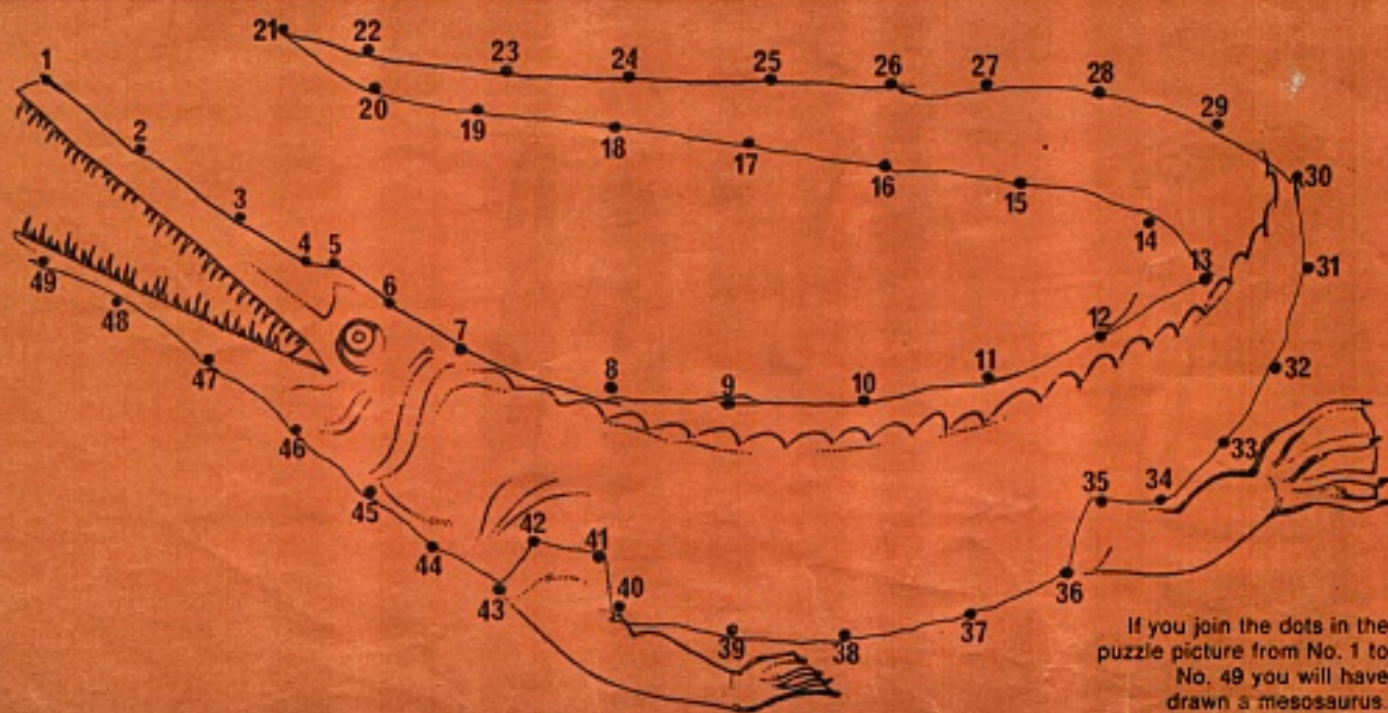
A Prehistoric Reptile



Here is another prehistoric animal in our series. Its name is MESOSAURUS and it used to live in the southern oceans of the world. Remains of the mesosaurus have been found in South Africa and Brazil in South America.

It was a fierce flesh-eating reptile of the sea, although it was quite small—in fact, only 28 inches long.

As you can see in the picture, it had very sharp teeth of different sizes.



If you join the dots in the puzzle picture from No. 1 to No. 49 you will have drawn a mesosaurus.



BEAUTIFUL PICTURES

Sir John Everett Millais (say MILL-AY) lived from 1829 to 1896 and he was a very famous artist, indeed. On the cover of the third issue of "ONCE UPON A TIME" there was a well-known picture of his called "The Boyhood of Raleigh". Here is another of his pictures. It is called "Cherry Ripe". How steadily the little girl looks at us with her beautiful eyes.



The WISE OLD OWL

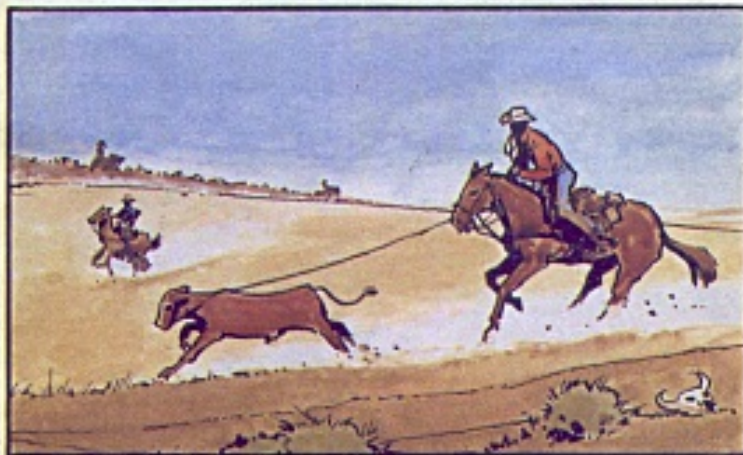
Knows all the answers

The Wise Old Owl is here to answer many interesting questions for you.



1. Where is the Milky Way?

The Milky Way is a huge collection of stars, which you can see in the sky on a bright, clear night. It is very easy to pick out, because it appears rather like a long, milky cloud of light.



2. What is a prairie?

A prairie is the name given to the great plains in America and Canada. The prairies, usually rather flat expanses of ground, stretch for hundreds of miles and are used for growing corn. Large herds of cattle graze on the prairie grasslands.



4. Why do bees fly from flower to flower?

The bees are gathering nectar, a sweet juice found in the heart of all flowers. As each bee flies back to the hive where it lives, the nectar changes to honey, which is carefully stored away for winter food.



3. How is linen made?

Linen, which we use for some of our clothes, is made from fibres of a plant called flax. Flax has been grown for thousands of years and people living in the ancient Biblical times wore clothes made from it. The fibres are combed out into long thin strands for weaving.



5. Where does tin come from?

Tin is a metal which is got from mines under the ground. Tin is mostly used for covering steel, to protect it from rusting. The tinned food we buy is put into steel cans, each having a light coating of tin.

The Wise Old Owl will appear again in three weeks' time.